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James River
— LEGAL ASSOCIATES —
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW

February 25, 2016

Honorable Mark R. Herring
Attorney General of Virginia
Attorney General's Office
900 East Main Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Mr. Herring:

I represent Jonathan Warner, a young man who was shot in the back by an armed security officer at CENTRA Lynchburg General Hospital on January 11, 2016. I write to seek your assistance in transferring the investigation of the shooting from the Lynchburg Police Department to the Virginia State Police.

Jonathan reported to the emergency room of the ER at CENTRA Lynchburg General Hospital on June 10th at approximately 9:30 pm with an acute psychiatric condition seeking admission to Virginia Baptist Hospital for adjustment of the medication he takes for schizophrenia. After waiting for nearly seven hours for medical clearance, he was transferred to the Psychiatric Emergency Center for psychiatric assessment, where he obtained and discharged a TASER. A armed CENTRA security officer, Wesley Gillespie, then shot Jonathan several times, including once in the back as Jonathan tried to crawl to the exit door.

My investigation has discovered the following facts:

- Gillespie is a former Lynchburg Police Department officer.
- Gillespie's son, Matthew Gillespie, is a lieutenant in the Lynchburg Police Department.
- CENTRA and the Lynchburg Police Department are partners in the operation of the Psychiatric Emergency Center by formal execution of a Memorandum of Understanding with Horizon Behavioral Health (the local community services board).
- Gillespie is a Special Conservator of the Peace appointed pursuant to Code of Virginia 19.2-163.

Jonathan has lodged a formal claim against the Lynchburg Police Department for injuries he sustained in the shooting. Clearly the Lynchburg Police Department has a direct conflict of

Hon. Mark R. Herring
February 25, 2016
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interest in this investigation and both Jonathan and the public deserve an independent investigation conducted by a disinterested office.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. I trust you will assist in seeking the transfer of the investigation and I hope you will not hesitate to contact me if you require information or assistance.

Very truly yours



M. PAUL VALOIS

cc: Hon. Michael R. Doucette
Chief Raul M. Diaz

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PRESS RELEASE

FEBRUARY 25, 2016

CONTACT: M. Paul Valois, Esquire

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SUBJECT: Jonathan Warner Seeks Assistance of Attorney General Mark Herring In Call for Independent Investigation of CENTRA Shooting

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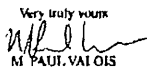
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